

1 SENATE BILL 971

2 **48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Pete Campos

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10 AN ACT

11 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO
12 CONTRACT FOR THE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
13 CURRICULA FOR A VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS IN NEW MEXICO.

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15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

16 Section 1. APPROPRIATION.--

17 A. Six million dollars (\$6,000,000) is appropriated
18 from the general fund to the public education department for
19 expenditure in fiscal year 2008 to contract with a nonprofit
20 organization for the design, development and implementation of
21 a project-based, story-centered and learn-by-doing curricula.
22 The curricula will be supported by real-time mentoring from
23 career-field experts for delivery through a virtual high school
24 for students in New Mexico.

25 B. The request for proposals issued by the public

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1 education department shall include provisions that require
2 respondents to design curricula that:

3 (1) enhance career skills, critical thinking
4 skills, communication skills and college preparedness and, upon
5 completion, enable students to be immediately capable of
6 performing useful work in the field addressed by the curricula;

7 (2) use simulated professional experiences
8 that create realistic workplace situations, stimulating student
9 interest in science and technology and encouraging students to
10 pursue further studies in those fields;

11 (3) will be available for local or remote
12 participation by students working together in teams mentored by
13 teachers and professionals on a web site controlled by the
14 state of New Mexico; and

15 (4) will provide for professional development
16 in mentoring methods and techniques for New Mexico teachers and
17 real-time career-field mentors.

18 C. Respondents to the request for proposals will
19 also assist the legislative education study committee with
20 development of a virtual high school for delivering the
21 curricula to students.

22 D. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
23 at the end of fiscal year 2008 shall revert to the general
24 fund.